

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A free space optics communication apparatus which performs communication with another apparatus with light beams, comprising:

a plurality of light-emitting units, each of the units emitting a light beam which forms a generally elliptical irradiation pattern on the other apparatus,

wherein the plurality of light-emitting units are set such that irradiation patterns of light beams from at least two of the plurality of light-emitting units overlap in the shorter diameter direction of the irradiation pattern of the light beam from the one light-emitting unit at a light-receiving unit of the other apparatus, and respective optical axes of the plurality of light-emitting units are inclined with respect to a reference axis of the free space optics communication apparatus so that a width of a combined irradiation pattern formed by combining the light beams from the plurality of light-emitting units in a shorter diameter direction of an irradiation pattern of a light beam from one of the plurality of light-emitting units is 1.5 times or more larger than a width in the shorter diameter direction of the irradiation pattern of the light beam from the one light-emitting unit.

2 (original). The free space optics communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of light-emitting units are set such that the width of the combined irradiation pattern formed at the light-receiving unit by combining the light beams from the plurality of light-emitting units in the shorter diameter direction of the irradiation pattern of the light beam from

the one light-emitting unit is 2 times or more larger than the width of the irradiation pattern of the light beam from the one light-emitting unit.

3 (canceled).

4 (original). The free space optics communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of light-emitting units emit light beams toward the other apparatus such that longer diameter direction axes of irradiation patterns of light beams from at least two of the plurality of light-emitting units intersect at the light-receiving unit.

5 (original). The free space optics communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of the light-emitting units includes a light source and an optical system which condenses light emitted from the light source.

6 (original). The free space optics communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the light source is a semiconductor laser.

7 (original). A free space optics communication system comprising:

the free space optics communication apparatus according to claim 1; and
another apparatus which has a light-receiving unit which receives light beams irradiated from the free space optics communication apparatus.

8-19 (canceled).